

## SUMMARY

Jones-Steisel House

circa 1928

623 Anneslie Road

Suburb of Anneslie, Towson, Maryland

Private

The one-story, stucco bungalow is a good example of the type of single-family dwellings which were being built in suburban developments throughout much of the country after World War I. Constructed circa 1928, the house and its surrounding landscaping retain much of their original appearance, minor alterations being made to the exterior. The roof covering has been replaced, as have the wood sash windows, and the buff-colored stucco is now painted white. The original floor plan of the main floor remains. It comprises a living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom. The kitchen was completely modernized in the 1950s. A number of the decorative details of the interior are extant. Wall-to-wall carpeting covers the hardwood floor in the living room, dining room, and bedrooms.

At one side of the rear of the property is the original two-door, stucco garage.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. BA-2755

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Jones-Steisel House

**2. Location**

street & number 623 Anneslie Road

   not for publication

city, town Towson

   vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Baltimore County

**3. Classification**

**Category**

☒ district  
☐ building(s)  
☐ structure  
☐ site  
☐ object

**Ownership**

☒ public  
☐ private  
☐ both

**Public Acquisition**

☐ in process  
☐ being considered  
☒ not applicable

**Status**

☒ occupied  
☐ unoccupied  
☐ work in progress

**Accessible**

☒ yes: restricted  
☐ yes: unrestricted  
☐ no

**Present Use**

☐ agriculture  
☐ commercial  
☐ educational  
☐ entertainment  
☐ government  
☐ industrial  
☐ military

☐ museum  
☐ park  
☒ private residence  
☐ religious  
☐ scientific  
☐ transportation  
☐ other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name William Jones and Claudine Steisel Jones

street & number 623 Anneslie Road

telephone no.: 410-377-9422

city, town Towson

state and zip code Maryland 21212

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Land Records Department

liber 8157

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue

folio 329

city, town Towson

state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title None

date

   federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. BA-2755

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☒ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See attachment, Section 7, pages 1-3.

## Section 7: Description of Resource and Its Various Elements

The single-family dwelling at 623 Anneslie Road is a detached, one-story, asymmetrical, stucco bungalow situated on the south side of Anneslie Road (Lots # 23 and 24, Block "O" on a Plat of Anneslie; combined frontage of 50' and an even rectangular depth of 125'). Built on a concrete block foundation, the ballon-framed structure has an irregular plan, three rooms deep, and a low-pitch, cross-gabled roof with slightly overhanging eaves. Although its former owners have altered some of the original exterior features over the years — such as modifying the brick steps and railing of the front porch, painting the buff-colored stucco walls green and then white, and replacing the red asbestos shingles and all the double-hung wood sash windows — the building nevertheless retains very much of its overall appearance when it was built in the mid-to-late 1920s. In addition, the nature of the landscaping, siting of the concrete front walk, and presence of the stucco-covered garage at the south-west end of the property all contribute to the retention of the original appearance.

The bungalow's north (main) facade is two bays wide, the most prominent feature being the full-height main entry porch which projects from the west bay and creates the cross-gable. The stucco porch has its original concrete floor and steep pitch gable roof, now covered with asphalt shingles. Four square columns support the roof and define the front facade of the porch. Two columns, centered over the brick steps, rise to form a round arch. Wrought iron railing forms the balustrades on the west and east facade of the porch, as well as the curved handrail leading down from the top of the steps. Centered in the porch is the main entry, consisting of a single, glass paneled door which dates from the construction of the building. With respect to the west bay of the north facade, two 1/1 windows, each with a wood shutter, are centered in the bay.

The east facade consists of two bays and a wing. Projecting slightly from the main block is the exterior gable wall chimney, with its two chimney pots, flanked by two 1/1 windows of the living room, located at either side of the chimney. These were originally casement windows. The wing, which is south of the main block, is built on sloping ground, giving a raised foundation. The wing consists of two 1/1 windows, one illuminating the dining room and kitchen, respectively, and two, three-light, awning windows which provide natural light in the basement.

## Section 7: Description of Resource and Its Various Elements

The west facade of the building is three bays wide. The main block, which projects slightly from the wing, has one, three-light, basement awning window and one 1/1 window centered on the main floor. The southern two bays have two, 1/1 windows and one, three-light, basement awning window.

The south facade (rear) is three bays wide, consisting of the southern side of the wing and one bay of the main block. The east two bays, the most dominant feature of the facade, projects the rear of the kitchen out from the west side of the house. This projection at main floor level, supported in part by a squared pier towards the west side of the bay, serves to provide an enclosure for outdoor activities at ground level, including direct access to the basement by a single, inner wood door. At the western side of the east bay is a small enclosed porch, immediately adjacent to the kitchen. Fenestration includes one, three-light, basement awning window and a 1/1 window at main floor level. The west bay of the facade comprises wood steps and handrail leading from the small porch to ground level. At main floor level of the main block is one 1/1 window.

### Interior

The original floor plan has been retained, as have a number of the decorative details. A living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom comprise the main floor. On the east side of the house, proceeding from north (entry door) to the south, are the living room, dining room and kitchen. The rooms are not separated by doors. On the west side, the bathroom is centrally located between the master bedroom to the north and the second bedroom to the south. At the rear of the kitchen, in the southwest corner of the house, is the wood stair which leads to the basement. Adjacent to the top of the stair is the rear door of the house, providing access to the garden and garage via an outdoor porch and stair.

The living room, measuring 15' 4" x 12' 6", is the largest room on the main floor. The original brick fireplace and red tiled hearth, centered on the east wall, are extant. The fireplace, once open, is now covered with a metal and glass firescreen. The room is

## Section 7: Description of Resource and Its Various Elements

fenestrated with four windows, one on either side of both the fireplace and the front entry door, respectively. A lighting fixture which was once installed in the center of the ceiling has now been removed. As with the dining room and two bedrooms, the original tongue-in-groove hardwood floor of the living room is covered over with wall-to-wall carpeting.

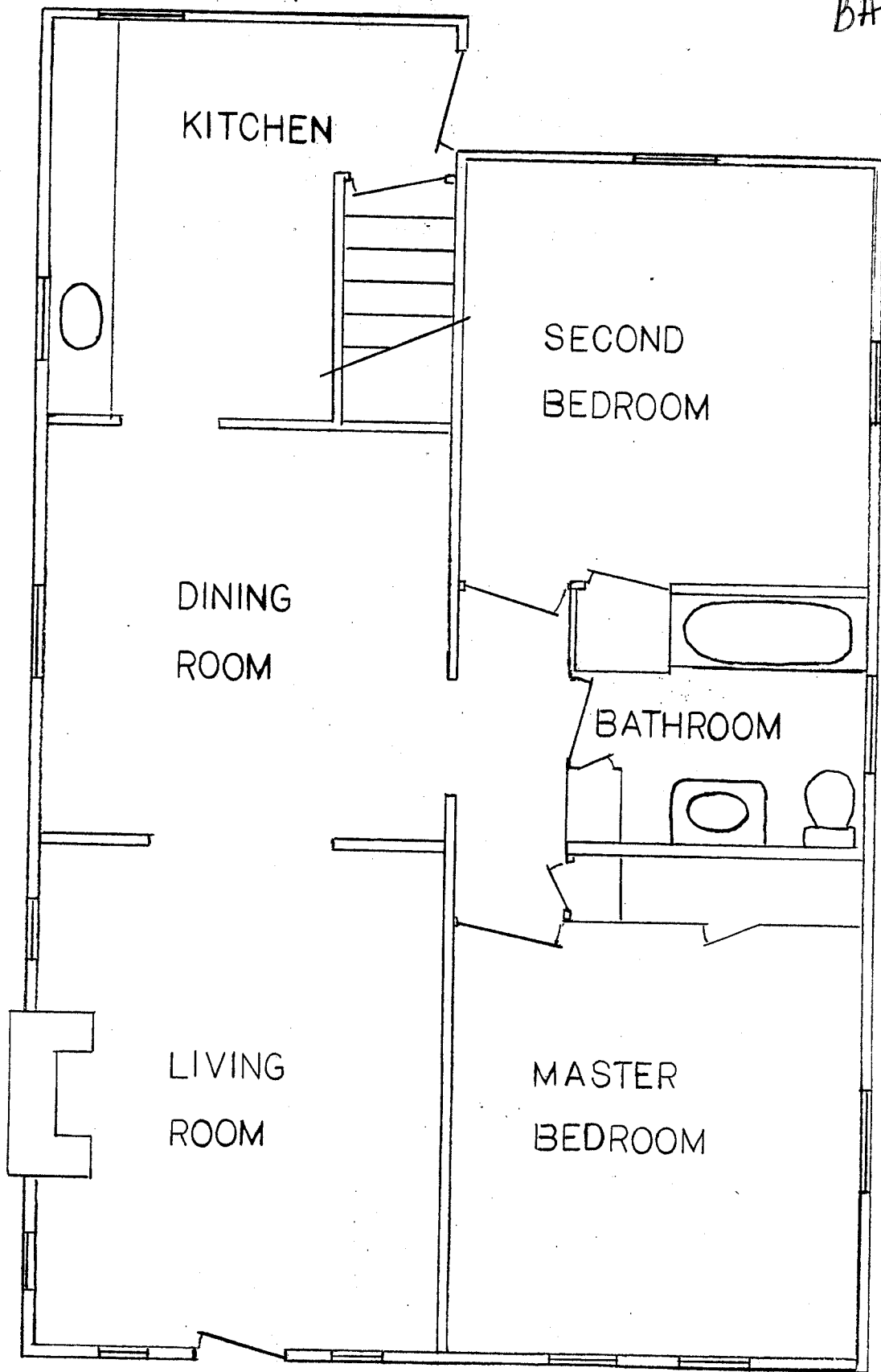
The dining room, providing direct access to both the living room and kitchen, as well to the small hall leading to the bedrooms and bathroom, functions as a focal point in the house. The room is fenestrated with a single window centered on the east wall. The original molded chair rail remains, and it is possible that the metal chandelier with five glass shades is original. The kitchen, modernized completely in the 1950s, possessed a breakfast nook at the rear of the room, porcelain gas range, enameled sink, and large pantry. The original fenestration remains, however, with one window present on both the east and south walls, respectively.

The master bedroom has a large closet occupying virtually all of the south wall of the room. Two windows are centered on the north wall and one window is centered on the west wall. The etched glass ceiling fixture may be the original. The second bedroom has a smaller closet adjacent in the north-east corner of the room, and windows centered on the west and south walls, respectively. In the bathroom, the built-in tub and white ceramic tiling have been retained. The original chrome-plated plumbing fixtures have been replaced. The room has a window centered on the west wall.

The basement, which is now subdivided into three rooms, previously contained a large coal bin and steam heating plant designed to provide steam heat to radiators throughout the house. A newly installed split system heat pump is now utilized for heating, air-cooling and ventilation. The attic consists of a crawl space. Access to the attic is by means of a small ceiling door on the main floor of the house.

At the rear of the property is the yard and two-car stucco garage, with flat roof. Each car entry consists of two glass and panel doors. The concrete driveway leading to the garage is separated from the yard by a wood picket fence.

BA 2755



JONES-STEISEL HOUSE

PLAN OF INTERIOR

1" = 5' APPROX.

623 ANNESLIE ROAD, TOWSON, MD

## 8. Significance

Survey No. BA-2755

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1928 Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See attachment, Section 8, pages 1-2.



## Section 8: Statement of Significance, History, and Support

The dwelling is a good example of bungalow design and construction, built subsequent to World War I for a single-family who most probably wished to leave the city center in order to own an affordable home with a yard and garage. The building, situated in the suburb of Anneslie immediately north of Baltimore City, was among the group of seven houses illustrated and described in a promotional brochure published in 1929 by Charles H. Steffey, Inc.<sup>1</sup> The real estate firm constructed the houses in Anneslie for speculation during the 1920s. The one-story, stucco bungalow retains many of its original exterior and interior features.

The land on which the house was built formed part of the Anneslie estate. Anneslie was one of a line of estates which extended from Waverly to Towson. The focal point of the 100-acre estate, Villa Anneslie, was built by Frederick Harrison in 1855, who named the building after his daughter, Anne. The estate, which was originally purchased from the Govane Howard family, eventually became the property of the Birckhead family, descendants of Frederick Harrison. Lennox Birckhead sold off most of the land to Charles Steffey in 1922. Steffey divided the land into building lots and began constructing single-family suburban homes on the lots during the same year. By 1929, the date of the above-mentioned brochure, over 160 "cottage-type" houses had been built. The brochure noted that all the homes have water, gas, electricity, sidewalks, fire plugs, and street lights. The proximity to major roads and public transportation, stores, churches, and schools also was mentioned.

The house has been occupied by three sets of owners. First, Mr. Dana Sampson and his wife, Colby Sampson, owned the house from 1928-1940.<sup>2</sup> The house was purchased in 1940 by Mr. H. Earle Hudgins and Mrs. R. Norine Hudgins, who eventually sold it in 1989.<sup>3</sup> The current occupants are Mr. William Jones and Mrs. Claudine S. Jones.

## Section 8: Statement of Significance, History, and Support

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Anneslie Real Estate Brochure, *You Can Afford to Live in Anneslie*, published by Charles H. Steffey, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 1929.

<sup>2</sup> Baltimore County Land Records, 659:243, 1135:348.

<sup>3</sup> Baltimore County Land Records, 8157:331.

<sup>4</sup> Interview with current owners of 623 Anneslie Road, William Jones and Claudine Steisel Jones, November 20, 1994.



**Chain or Title: Jones-Steisel House, 623 Anneslie Road**

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Charles W. Mulligan & Catherine B. Mulligan	Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	23 May 1922	555	317	Deed fee simple	\$5; 97 acres
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co.	7 July 1922	560	69	Deed fee simple	\$1; grants right to erect/maintain telephone & telegraph lines, poles
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	Consolidated Gas Electric Light & Power Co.	8 Aug. 1922	557	366	Deed fee simple	\$1; grants right to maintain erect/maintain poles to carry electric light power
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	Mayor & City Council of Baltimore	4 May 1923	571	266	Deed fee simple	\$1; construction of water mains or supply pipes
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	Consolidated Gas Electric Light & Power Co.	24 July 1923	576	305	Deed fee simple	\$1; grants right to erect & maintain poles, and right to trim trees to keep wires free
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	County Commissioners of Baltimore County	6 June 1925	618	211	Deed fee simple	\$1; grants right to lay, maintain and remove water and sewer pipe
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	Anneslie Road Corp.	11 July 1925	616	567	Deed fee simple	\$5; assigns rights, title, interest in roads, streets, lanes

**Chain of Title: Jones-Steisel House, 623 Anneslie Road**

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Chas. H. Steffey, Inc.	Frank M. Dyer	24 Aug. 1928	659	243	Deed fee simple	\$5; conveyance of ground lot – lots 23 & 24, Block "O", Plat of Anneslie
Charles W. Mulligan	Dana Sampson & Colby Sampson	24 Aug. 1928	659	244	Deed fee simple	\$5; tenants by the entireties of the lot of ground and premises
Safe Deposit & Trust Company	Dana Sampson & Colby Sampson	30 July 1935	958	416	Deed fee simple	\$1537; acquired leasehold title of property
Dana Sampson & Colby Sampson	H. Earle Hudgins & R. Norine Hudgins	27 Nov. 1940	1135	348	Deed fee simple	\$5; conveyance of lots 23 & 24 Block "O", Plat of Anneslie
H. Earle Hudgins & R. Norine Hudgins	Claudine Steisel	25 April 1989	8157	329	Deed fee simple	\$101,000; conveyance of lots 23 & 24, Block "O", Anneslie
Claudine Steisel	Trustees for Weaver Bros., Inc.	25 April 1989	8157	331	Deed fee simple	\$45,000; grantor borrows sum from grantee

BA-2735

32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71

31 Lots @ 25' = 775'

Anneslie Road

40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80																	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80

<

40 Lots @ 25' = 1000'

Overbrook Road

40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66												
39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

1873'-9"

S 85° 14' E

JONES-STEISEL HOUSE

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M.10.0815

Chicken Ho.

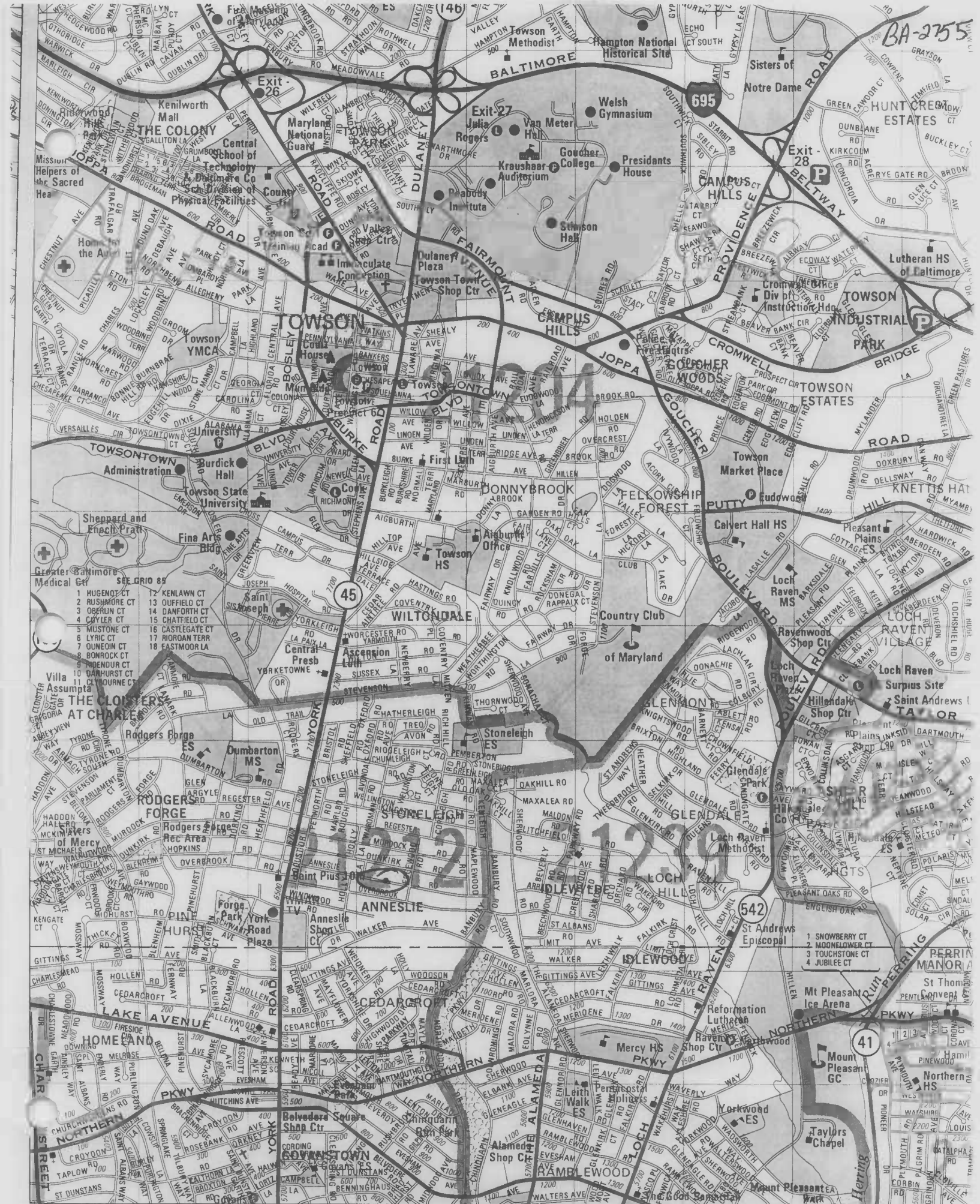
25' = 1000'

BA-2755  
1873-9  
5 85° 14' E  
JONES-STEISEL HOUSE  
TOWSON, BALTIMORE COUNTY  
PLAT BOOK WPC No. 7 Folio 40  
LAND RECORDS OFFICE, TOWSON  
MAP OF ANNESLIE, 1916

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

380' ±

Older Ave.



JONES-STEISEL HOUSE  
623 ANNESLIE ROAD  
TOWSON, BALTIMORE COUNTY





JOHN W. ELLIS - 11-1-53

BA-2755

BA-2755-11-1-53

BRIAN W. ELLIS

NOV 1954

MARYLAND 1954

VIEW SOUTH OF HOUSE FROM VIEWING  
ON SOUTHWEST OF ANNESLEE ROAD

1 OF 5



JONES - STEPHEN - HOUSE

BA-2755

RAY - JIM - HOUSE - 2000

THOMAS - RAY - 1000

JOHN - ZEN - 1000

JOHN - GARY - 1000

JOHN - NICK - 1000 - 2000 - 1000

JOHN - 1000

2 of 10



JOHN C. STUBBS, JR.

BA-2755

2nd Floor, Room 1, 1st & York St.

2nd Floor, Room 1

2nd Floor, Room 1

2nd Floor, Room 1

2nd Floor, Room 1, 1st & York St.

2nd Floor, Room 1



BA-2755





DOUGLAS SPRING

SACRED TO THE INDIANS AND

THE RIVER

IN 1970

THE SPRING

WAS FOUND NORTH OF THE

RIVER